

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KATHMA 01348 01 OF 02 021223 Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 021130 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4834

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KATHMANDU 1348

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NP

SUBJECT: DEPSEC VISIT SOUTH ASIA

REF: STATE 056675

1. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS: WE BELIEVE SUCH STATEMENTS  
BY DEPSEC DESIRABLE. SUGGESTED TEXTS FOLLOW:

A. ARRIVAL STATEMENT:

(1) IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE FOR ME TO RETURN TO NEPAL. I WAS  
LAST HERE IN 1960 WHEN NEPAL WAS RELATIVELY UNKNOWN TO AMERICANS  
AND WHEN A VISIT TO NEPAL WAS A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE FOR THE  
ADVENTUROUS IN SPIRIT. ( NOTE: SEE STATE 054759. MISSION  
HAS NO RECORD OF DEPSEC' S VISIT IN 1960.)

(2) DURING THE INTERVENING YEARS THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO  
COUNTRIES HAVE GROWN IN MANY WAYS --

( A) THERE HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF  
AMERICAN TOURISTS VISITING NEPAL. THE TOURIST INDUSTRY HAS  
AWAKENED TO NEPAL' S SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS; THE MANY TENS OF  
THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS THAT HAVE SEEN YOUR COUNTRY' S UNIQUE  
CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SCENIC WONDERS ARE SPREADING THE WORD  
THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

( B) ON A DIFFERENT AND DEEPER LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING, HUNDREDS  
OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS THAT HAVE LIVED IN YOUR COUNTRY AND  
LEARNED TO LOVE IT, HAVE RETURNED TO AMERICA, PERMANENTLY  
AFFECTED BY THEIR EXPERIENCES HERE, FULL OF PRAISE FOR NEPAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 01348 01 OF 02 021223 Z

AND ITS PEOPLE.

(C) PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, MY GOVERNMENT HAS CONTINUED ITS HISTORIC ASSOCIATION WITH THE EFFORT OF THE NEPALESE PEOPLE, LED BY A SUCCESSION OF THREE DYNAMIC AND PROGRESSIVE MONARCHS, TO MODERNIZE NEPALESE SOCIETY AND THE NEPALESE ECONOMY. BY WORKING TOGETHER AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER, THROUGH MUCH OF YOUR COUNTRY'S MODERN HISTORY, I BELIEVE WE HAVE LEARNED TOGETHER. CERTAINLY MY GOVERNMENT, AND MANY AMERICANS ASSOCIATED WITH IT, HAVE LEARNED TO RESPECT AND ADMIRE SUCH ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY, NOT LEAST THE DEDICATION AND ZEAL OF YOUR LEADERS.

(3) I LOOK FORWARD WITH KEEN ANTICIPATION TO RENEWING MY ACQUAINTANCE WITH YOUR GREAT COUNTRY, MEETING A NEW GENERATION OF YOUR LEADERS, AND OBSERVING AT FIRST HAND THE TREMENDOUS PROGRESS I AM TOLD YOU HAVE MADE SINCE MY LAST VISIT.

B. SUGGESTED DEPARTURE STATEMENT:

(1) THIS HAS BEEN A MEMORABLE VISIT. I CONSIDER MYSELF FORTUNATE TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW MY ACQUAINTANCE WITH YOUR REMARKABLE MOUNTAIN SCENERY, YOUR BEAUTIFUL KATHMANDU VALLEY, YOUR WONDERFULLY FRIENDLY, CHEERFUL, AND HOSPITABLE PEOPLE.

BUT WHAT HAS IMPRESSED ME MOST IS YOUR NATION'S COMMITMENT TO MOVE FORWARD, TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS, TO OVERCOME

THE LATE START IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A MODERN NATION THAT YOU INHERITED AS A LEGACY OF CENTURIES OF ISOLATION. IN THIS GREAT EFFORT YOU ARE MOST FORTUNATE TO HAVE THE WISE AND STRONG LEADERSHIP OF HIS MAJESTY, KING BIRENDRA, WHO COMBINES A STRONG SENSE OF PRIDE IN NEPAL AND THE NEPALESE PEOPLE WITH A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE MODERNIZATION PROCESS INVOLVES AND A DETERMINATION TO GET ON WITH THE JOB.

(2) AS FOR US, THE UNITED STATES HAS NO ISSUES, PROBLEMS, OR QUARRELS WITH NEPAL; ON THE CONTRARY, WE HAVE THE STRONGEST SENSE OF GOODWILL FOR YOUR COUNTRY, BASED ON OVER TWO DECADES OF CLOSE AND MUTUALLY REWARDING COOPERATION IN YOUR DEVELOPMENT EFFORT. WE FEEL WE KNOW YOU WELL, AND YOU ARE INDEED OUR GOOD FRIENDS. AND FOR OUR PART, YOU CAN CONTINUE TO RELY ON THE CONTINUITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S INTEREST IN NEPAL, IN AMERICA'S CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR YOUR NATIONAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE, AND IN THE CONTINUITY OF OUR EFFORTS TO AID YOU IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF YOUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KATHMA 01348 01 OF 02 021223 Z

2. PRESS CONFERENCE: MISSION ALSO CONSIDERS SHORT EXPOSURE TO LOCAL PRESS CORPS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. BULK OF QUESTIONS LIKELY TO CONCERN ( A ) U. S. RELATIONS WITH INDIA, ARMS POLICY TOWARD SUBCONTINENT, ETC. ( SEVERAL LOCAL JOURNALISTS REPRESENT INDIAN PRESS AND ARE LIKELY TRY TO STEAL A MARCH ON THEIR DELHI COLLEAGUES); AND ( B ) FUTURE OF U. S. ASSISTANCE TO NEPAL. SPECIFICS MIGHT INCLUDE:

A. IN VIEW NIXON DOCTRINE, U. S. WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM, ETC., ISN' T IT LIKELY THAT U. S. INTEREST IN ( I. E. AID FOR ) NEPAL WILL NOW DIMINISH?

B. SINCE U. S. NO LONGER FUNDING AID TO NEPAL WITH SURPLUS INDIAN RUPEES, ISN' T IT LIKELY THAT U. S. AID PROGRAM WILL BE CUT BACK? ( NOTE: REGARDING FOREGOING TWO QUESTIONS, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH REVIEW TRANSCRIPT OF DR. HANNAH' S STATEMENT TO KATHMANDU PRESS CORPS ON OCTOBER 28, 1972.)

C. AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN HAS STATED HE INTENDS TO NEGOTIATE A RUPEE SETTLEMENT WITH GOI. HOW WILL THIS AFFECT NEPAL?

D. QUESTIONS REGARDING FUTURE AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENTS TO NEPAL.

3. TOASTS, SPEECHES, ETC.: RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO DRAFT ENTIRE TOAST, MISSION PREFERS FLAG A FEW MORE OR LESS OBVIOUS POINTS, AND TO SUGGEST A FEW TALKING POINTS FOR POSSIBLE INCORPORATION IN FINAL PRODUCT:

A. NEPALESE PERSONALITIES:

(1) KING BIRENDRA:

( A ) ATTENDED HARVARD (1967-68);

( B ) HAS STATED AND DEMONSTRATED THAT HIS MOST URGENT TASK IS SOCIO- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NEPAL;

( C ) IS WIDELY TRAVELLED.

(2) FOREIGN AND EDUCATION MINISTER KARKI:

( A ) LONG AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS LEGISLATOR, EDUCATOR AND DIPLOMAT;

( B ) LED NEPAL' S DELEGATION TO LAST UNGA, WHERE HE HAD WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS " FRUITFUL " MEETING WITH SECRETARY ROGERS.

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 01348 02 OF 02 021237 Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 021130 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4835

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KATHMANDU 1348

EXDIS

(3) FOREIGN SECRETARY KHATRI:

( A ) PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT ( AUGUST 1972), WAS AMBASSADOR TO  
U. S. AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN, FROM LATE 1964;

( B ) HAS HAD LONG MILITARY SERVICE, AND HOLD RANK OF  
MAJOR GENERAL;

( C ) THIS IS HIS SECOND STINT AS FOREIGN SECRETARY; HELD  
THAT POSITION AND WAS CONCURRENTLY DEFENSE SECRETARY IN 1962-64.

B. FOREIGN POLICY:

(1) U. S. HAS LONG RESPECTED AND ADMIRER NEPAL' S  
BRAND OF NON- ALIGNMENT, WHICH SUCCEEDS SO ADMIRABLY IN  
MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH EVERY NATION...

(2) INDEED, ONE MIGHT SAY WE ARE TAKING A LEAF OUT  
OF NEPAL' S BOOK, AND MOVING IN THE DIRECTION OF DEVELOPING  
FRIENDLIER RELATIONS WITH ALL POWERS, MAJOR AND MINOR OURSELVES.

(3) AT THE SAME TIME WE APPLAUD NEPAL' S READINESS TO  
STAND FIRM ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF BASIC MORAL PRINCIPLE,  
SUCH AS TERRORISM.

C. DEVELOPMENT:

(1) OUR UNIQUE ASSOCIATION FOR OVER TWO DECADES WITH  
YOUR NATION IN THE DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESS HAS INVOLVED US IN  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 01348 02 OF 02 021237 Z

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER IN ALMOST ALL OF THE MAJOR SECTORS OF YOUR  
ECONOMY. DURING THIS PERIOD NEARLY 2,000 NEPALESE HAVE  
RECEIVED TRAINING OUTSIDE OF NEPAL IN VARIOUS SPECIALIZED  
SKILLS AS A PART OF THIS AID EFFORT. MANY OF THESE STUDIED  
IN THE UNITED STATES.

(2) BY NOW, MANY OTHER BILATERAL AID DONORS ARE

PARTICIPATING IN YOUR NATION'S DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORT, AS WELL AS UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. WE WELCOME THIS DEVELOPMENT, AND THE UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY IT GIVES US TO DEVELOP COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THESE OTHER AID DONOR GOVERNMENTS, UN AGENCIES, AND INTERNATIONAL LENDING INSTITUTIONS. THE INCREASING AVAILABILITY OF THESE OTHER SOURCES OF FOREIGN AID HAS ENABLED US OVER THE YEARS GRADUALLY TO CONCENTRATE OUR OWN AID EFFORTS IN CERTAIN SPECIAL FIELDS SUCH AS AGRICULTURE AND FAMILY PLANNING. THIS, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SIGNIFY ANY LESSENING OF OUR INTEREST; WE HAVE EVERY INTENTION OF MAINTAINING THE CONTINUITY OF OUR TOTAL INVOLVEMENT IN WHAT IS NECESSARILY ALONG- TERM DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESS.

(3) MOST RECENTLY, WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE NEW ENERGY AND MOMENTUM HIS MAJESTY KING BIRENDRA IS GIVING TO THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORT -- HIS SUPPORT FOR A MORE BROADLY BASED AND PRAGMATIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, HIS REORGANIZATION OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL ADMINISTRATION INTO REGIONAL ZONES, AND HIS EXTENSIVE TRAVEL IN EACH OF THESE ZONES, TO CITE BUT A FEW EXAMPLES.

D. MISCELLANEOUS:

(1) THIS IS THE ONLY EMBASSY IN THE WORLD WHERE OUR AMBASSADOR, SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL, TURNED AROUND AND MARRIED ONE OF HER PREDECESSORS... OR TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY AROUND, AMBASSADOR BUNKER OBVIOUSLY TOOK SUCH A LIKING TO NEPAL WHEN HE WAS ACCREDITED HERE IN THE LATE '50' S THAT HE TOOK EXTRAORDINARY STEPS TO MAKE IT HIS SECOND HOME DURING THE '60' S AND EARLY '70' S.

(2) NEXT MONTH AMBASSADOR LAISE IS GOING TO RECEIVE AN AWARD RECOGNIZING HER AS ONE OF THE TEN OUTSTANDING CIVIL SERVANTS OF THE PAST YEAR. THIS DOES HONOR TO NEPAL, IN MY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KATHMA 01348 02 OF 02 021237 Z

OPINION, AS WELL AS TO AMBASSADOR LAISE PERSONALLY.

(3) ONE OF THE MORE FREQUENT CRITICISMS OF OUR DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IS THAT WE MOVE OUR AMBASSADORS TOO FREQUENTLY, JUST WHEN THEY ARE BEGINNING TO KNOW THEIR WAY AROUND... THIS IS NOT ALWAYS THE FAULT OF THE SYSTEM: FREQUENTLY IT REFLECTS THE WISHES OF THE AMBASSADORS THEMSELVES, WHO DEVELOP A DESIRE TO MOVE ON TO GREENER PASTURES. IT IS THEREFORE SIGNIFICANT THAT IN THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS, SINCE WE FIRST ESTABLISHED A RESIDENT EMBASSY IN KATHMANDU, WE HAVE HAD ONLY TWO AMBASSADORS, WITH YOUR CHARMING DEAN OF THE CORPS, AMBASSADOR LAISE, ALREADY WELL EMBARKED

ON HER SEVENTH YEAR OF SERVICE HERE...

(4) I AM TOLD THAT DURING THIS MONTH, MANY TRADITIONAL FESTIVALS AND CEREMONIES, MOSTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NEPALI NEW YEAR, ARE OCCURRING HERE IN KATHMANDU VALLEY... I THINK THE SENSE OF TRADITION THESE FESTIVALS REFLECT IS A VERY HEALTHY THING, IN THAT IT CONTRIBUTES TO YOUR NATIONAL SENSE OF IDENTITY AND CONTINUITY DURING A PERIOD WHEN THE MODERNIZATION PROCESS IS NECESSARILY HAVING A TRAUMATIC IMPACT ON MANY TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INSTITUTIONS.

(5) THERE ARE PEOPLE IN AMERICA WHO STILL THINK OF KATHMANDU AS A HAVEN FOR WESTERN "WORLD TRAVELERS," BUT THE WORD IS GETTING AROUND THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO PUT AN END TO THE FREE AND EASY SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF HASHISH AND OTHER NARCOTIC DRUGS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPUTATION IN THE FIRST PLACE. I THINK THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL'S DECISION IS A WISE AND COURAGEOUS ONE, WHICH WILL IN THE LONG RUN SPARE NEPALESE SOCIETY MUCH MISERY AS WELL AS LAY A BASIS FOR EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE WORLD COMMUNITY IN THE GLOBAL EFFORT TO BRING THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM UNDER CONTROL. (NOTE: IN TERMS STRATEGY SET FORTH IN OUR NCAP IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO INCLUDE THIS POINT AMONG TALKING POINTS TO BE RAISED IN PRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH TOP GON OFFICIALS, RATHER THAN USE IT IN PUBLIC STATEMENT.)  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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